

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing Quality of Service (QoS) in a communication network, the method comprising:

for each of a plurality of applications of a service provider which will communicate across the communication network, requesting a level of QoS using for
~~communications in the communication network by a~~ QoS requests from ~~[[a]]~~ the
service provider; and

allocating the requested level levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider based on in response to the QoS requests.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein requesting a level of QoS ~~for communications in the communication network using QoS requests from the service provider~~ comprises generating a plurality of QoS requests, wherein each of the QoS requests is for a different one of the applications requesting a level of QoS by a QoS request from an application of the service provider.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 3, wherein ~~allocating the requested level of QoS to the application service provider~~ allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises allocating the requested a level of QoS to ~~an~~ a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 3, ~~allocating the requested level of QoS to the application service provider~~ allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises allocating a network capacity level for communications by a

particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application~~communication in the communication network with the service provider based on the QoS request.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, further comprising restricting communication by the particular one of the applications through the communication network ~~with the service provider~~ to the allocated network capacity level.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Claim 1~~Claim 3, wherein ~~allocating the requested level of QoS to the application service provider~~ allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises:

allocating a communication priority level for communications by a particular one of the applications of the service provider through ~~in the communication network in response to a QoS request for the particular application~~~~to the service provider based on the QoS request.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises allocating an allowed information delay level for communications through the communication network by a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application~~the allocated level of QoS is based on delay of information in the communication network.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises allocating an allowed information loss rate for communications through the communication network by a particular one of the

~~applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application~~
~~the allocated level of QoS is based on information loss rate in the communication network.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises allocating an allowed packet size for communications through the communication network by a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application
~~the allocated level of QoS is based on packet size in the communication network.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises modifying a Maximum Transmission Unit size for packets communicated through the communication network by a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application
~~further comprising modifying Maximum Transmission Unit size for packets communicated through a network based on the allocated level of QoS.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein:
~~allocating the requested level of QoS to the service provider~~ allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises modifying a profile of information that is communicated through the communication network by a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application
~~based on the allocated level of QoS.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~allocating the requested level of QoS to the application~~ allocating levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests comprises:

evaluating at a network service manager the QoS that is available in the communication network; and

allocating ~~the requested~~ a level of QoS to a particular one of the applications ~~of the service provider based on~~ in response to a QoS request for the particular application ~~the QoS request from the service provider~~ and the evaluation of the QoS available in the communication network.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the network service manager comprises a DSL service manager.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein evaluating at a network service manager the QoS available in the network comprises validating the QoS request for the particular application of ~~from~~ the service provider.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15, wherein validating the QoS request ~~from the service provider~~ comprises comparing the QoS request to a DSL session data store.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
communicating the QoS request in a data packet through the communication network; and
evaluating the QoS request based on information in a known field in the data packet.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:
identifying a protocol ID in the known field of the data packet; and
evaluating the QoS request based on the identified protocol ID.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:

identifying a source address and/or a destination address in the known field of the data packet; and

evaluating the QoS request based on the identified source address and/or the destination address.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:
identifying a source port number and/or a destination port number in the known field of the data packet; and
evaluating the QoS request based on the identified source port number and/or a destination port number.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein allocating the requested level of QoS to the service provider comprises notifying a broadband remote access server of the ~~allocated level~~ levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein allocating the requested level of QoS to the service provider comprises notifying a routing gateway of the ~~allocated level~~ levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising notifying the individual applications of the service provider of the ~~allocated~~ levels of QoS that have been allocated thereto.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for managing Quality of Service (QoS) in a communication network, the computer program product comprising program code embodied in a ~~computer-executable~~ computer-readable storage medium, the computer program code comprising:

service provider program code that when executed by a processor is configured to request a level of QoS for each of a plurality of applications of a service provider which will communicate across the communication network using communications in the communication network by a QoS requests from [[a]] the service provider; and

QoS allocation program code that when executed by a processor is configured to allocate the requested level levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the [[a]] service provider based on in response to the QoS requests.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, wherein the QoS allocation program code when executed by a processor is configured to allocate a network capacity level for communications by a particular one of the applications of the service provider in response to a QoS request for the particular application communication in the communication network based on the QoS request, and further comprising QoS management program code that when executed by a processor is configured to restrict communications by the particular one of the applications through the communication network with the service provider to the allocated network capacity level.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, wherein the QoS allocation program code when executed by a processor is configured to allocate a communication priority level for communications by a particular one of the applications of the service provider through in the communication network in response to a QoS request for the particular application based on the QoS request, and further comprising QoS management program code that when executed by a processor is configured to prioritize communications by the particular one of the applications through the communication

network in response to the allocated communication priority level~~with the service provider based on the allocated communication QoS level.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, further comprising QoS management program code that when executed by a processor is configured to shape information flow from a particular one of the applications of the service provider through the communication network ~~with the service provider based on~~ in response to the QoS request for the particular application.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, further comprising program code that when executed by a processor is configured to validate the QoS request for a particular one of the applications of ~~from~~ the service provider by comparing the QoS request to a DSL session data store.

30. (Canceled).

31. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, further comprising program code that when executed by a processor is configured to identify an application program of the service provider that is associated with the QoS request, and is configured to evaluate the QoS request based on the identified application program.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, further comprising program code that when executed by a processor is configured to notify a broadband remote access server of the allocated level levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to Claim 24, further comprising program code that when executed by a processor is

configured to notify a routing gateway of the ~~allocated level~~ levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

34. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:
a service provider;
an application framework infrastructure;
an access network communicatively coupling the service provider and the application framework infrastructure;
a plurality of routing gateways; and
a wide area network that communicatively couples the application framework infrastructure and the plurality of routing gateways, wherein the service provider is configured to request a level of QoS for each of a plurality of applications of a service provider which will communicate across the communication network using QoS requests from the service provider~~request a level of Quality of Service (QoS) for communication in the wide area network by a QoS request~~.

35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 34, wherein the application framework infrastructure is configured to allocate levels of QoS to individual ones of the applications of the service provider in response to the QoS requests~~the requested level of QoS to an application service provider based on the QoS request~~.

37. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 36, wherein the application framework infrastructure is configured to identify at least one of the plurality of routing gateways that communicates with the applications of the service provider, and is configured to notify the identified at least one of the plurality of routing gateways of the ~~allocated level~~ levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

38. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 36, further comprising a broadband remote access server, wherein the application framework infrastructure is configured to notify the broadband remote access server of the ~~allocated level~~ levels of QoS allocated to particular applications of the service provider.

39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently Amended) A method of managing Quality of Service (QoS) in a communication network, the method comprising:
allocating a different QoS level to each one of a plurality of applications of a service provider[[s]]; and
managing communications with individual ones of the applications of the service provider~~each of the plurality of service providers based on~~ in response to the allocated QoS levels allocated to the respective individual applications.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of managing Quality of Service (QoS) in a communication network, the method comprising:
allocating a different QoS level to each one of a plurality of IP addresses associated with different applications of a service provider; and
managing communications with individual ones of the applications in response to the QoS levels allocated to the ~~that are associated with the plurality of associated~~ IP addresses based on the allocated QoS levels.